THE

# Theatrical Observer;

AND

# Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

*No.* 6557. *THURSDAY, Dec.* 29, 1842. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

## HAYMARKET THEATRE.

THE performances here this evening, are The Way of the World, The Bastile, and Riquet with the Tuft.

OLYMPIC—The entertainments at this Theatre attract a crowded audience nightly; they commence with Leman Rede's successful piece, entitled *Life's a Lottery; or, Jolly Dick, the Lamplighter*, followed by the Extravaganza of *The Coat*, and the whole concluding with an entirely new and original comic Christmas Pantomime, called *Harlequin and Old Cocker; or Arithmetic Hall and the Rule of Three!* The last named novelty is certainly the chief attraction. It is made up of a thousand scenes and songs and flying jokes wherewith most Londoners are familiar, and elicited roars of laughter. The transformations are excellent, and the motley heroes displayed their respective excellences upon a sphere which was highly fertile in allusion to the prevailing follies of the day—Jews are victimised, Chinamen confounded, and rival " buss" cads painted blacker than they are. "Sums" are worked with wondrous expedition under the personal superintendence of the venerable *Cocker*, though not according to the letter of his well-thumbed rules, the result of the whole being that the total profit of 1842 is sevenpence in the pound. The scenery is beautiful. Jefferini is a capital *Clown*, and Bologna, as *Harlequin*, and Miss Wright, as *Columbine*, are much applauded. Several of the other performers are exceedingly clever.

QUEEN'S.—After *The Page of Naples*, a grand comic Pantomime was produced at this Theatre on Monday night, taking its name from the well-known ballad of " Polly put the kettle on," the *refrain* of which was frequently chaunted during the performance. Before we further advert to it, we must pay a tribute of justice to the beauty and novelty of the scenery, which was produced, as the bills state, by Mr. C. J. James. Lakes, moats, collonnades, aud towers, stretched before the eye of the spectator in apparently interminable splendour, and called forth expressions of ardent admiration. The commencement of the Pantomime seemed to be a sort of burlesque on the exploits of the merry Robin Hood and his valiant compeer Friar Tuck, but, indeed, before the *rationale* of the thing became intelligible, the grotesque masks, the transformations and other pantomimic accessories were exhibited on the scene, and the reign of uprorious merriment commenced. To unravel the complications of the adventures of the *Clown* and *Harlequin* is, as all our readers are aware, impossible, but we must say that they were as fun-exciting and as humourous as any Christmas playgoer need desire. The entertainments of the evening passed off very agreeably, nor were the audience slow or faint in testifying their approbation.

*The Princess's.*—This splendid Theatre was opened to the public on Monday night last for the first time since its completion, with an operatic performance and a musical burlesque. The Opera was *La Sonnambula,*

*E. & J. Thomas, Printers,* 26, *Russell Court, Covent Garden.*

and the opening of the Theatre was remarkable for the *debut* of Madame Eugenia Garcia, sister-in-law and pupil of the lamented Malibran, and for the re-appearance of Templeton, after an absence of four years from the English stage; they were very warmly received, and sang delightfully. *The Yellow Dwarf*, a new grand musical fairy burlesqne burletta followed, for the special entertainment of the holiday folk. The dresses, and other accessories to the scene are splendid, and the *tout ensemble* of the piece is as like perfection as possible.

## Fashionable Lounges.

*To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,*

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, paid another visit to the THAMES TUNNEL, which is now completed, and is 1,200 feet in length. The entrance is now on the Middlesex side, close to the Tunnel Pier at Wapping; the entrance to Rotherhithe is closed, in order to finish a new Staircase; on the completion of which the Tunnel will be opened as a thoroughfare for foot Passengers. Generally go by one of the steam boats, either from Hungerford, Adelphi, Temple Bar, Blackfriars Brydge, Old Shades Pier, or London Bridge,—very convenient.

Tuesday, stroll to view the magnificent and numerous additions just added to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-street, Portman-square :—An Historical Group, in Magnificent Armour, the Prince and Princess Royal, in their splendid cot, the King of Prussia, Commissioner Lin and his Consort, the gorgeous Robes of George the Fourth designed by himself at a cost of 18,000*l.*, &c.—This exhibition is crowded daily with the *elite* of society.

In the evening got the best shilling's worth I ever paid for in my life at the ROYAL ADELAIDE GALLERY, Lowther Arcade, Strand, where indeed all the arts and sciences met me with open arms—a grand Promenade Concert, vocal and instrumental, supported by the first performers of the day, followed by a popular Lecture on the Bude and Drummond Lights,—saw the humerous effects of the Laughing Gas—the wonderful Gas Microscope, and 30 magnificent Dissolving Views of Ghusnee, Cabul, &c. and portraits of Robert Burns, Lord Nelson, Prince Albert. &c.

Wednesday, visit the *Chinese Collection*, St. George's Place, Hyde Park Corner. It consists of objects exclusively Chinese, comprising upwards of 50 figures as large as life, in their native costume, from the highest mandarin to the mechanic; and replete with articles illustrative of their manufactures, habits, and domestic arrangements. Also many thousand specimens, both in Natural History and Miscellaneous Curiosities, illustrating the manners, &c. of 300,000,000 Chinese.

Afterwards, amuse myself by skating on the Artificial Ice, at the Baker Street Bazaar, Portman-square. This is a wonderful invention, there being upwards of 3,000 feet of beautiful Ice, on which skaters can enjoy their favourite amusement in all seasons, surrounded by snow-clad Alpine scenery, forming a beautiful and faithful Panorama of Lucerne and its frozen lake. Open from ten in the morning till five, and from seven till ten in the evening, when it is brilliantly illuminated.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden, quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, dropped into the LOWTHER BAZAAR, in the Strand—in addition to the usual accessories of such a place, is a Cosmorama fitted up with so much ingenuity that the spectator, with a very slight help from the fancy, might imagine that he was looking from some real cavern upon some of the most exquisite scenes on England's coast. The articles are unusually reasonable, and the greatest civility characterizes the establishment. It is very well attended, and to those who have not heard the Euterpeon it will be a great treat—there is no charge.

In the evening I am to be found at ANDERTON'S HOTEL, Fleet Street, enjoying some delightful singing at the Harmonic Meeting held there: the principal singers consist of Mr. R. Cook, Mr Bannister, Mr. Delevante, and Mr. Moody, the well-known comic singer. An eminent pianist presides. The concert commences at eight, and attracts vast audiences. Excellent dinners always ready between twelve and seven o'clock,—the soups delicious, and the terms moderate.

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious Needle Work, Leicester-square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Yours &c.—PAUL PRY.

# Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Dr. Arne's Opera of

## ARTAXERXES.

Artaxerxes, (2nd Time) Mrs ALFRED SHAW,
Arbaces, Mr MANVERS, Artabanes, Mr W. HARRISON,
Mandane, Miss RAINFORTM, Semira, Miss POOLE.

After which, Mr Bunn's Comic Interlude of

## My Neighbour's Wife.

Mr Somerton....Mr COOPER, Mr Brown....Mr MEADOWS,
Mr Smith, Mr BARTLEY,
MrsSomerton,MrsW.LACY, MrsBrown,MissLee, MrsSmith,MissCooper

To conclude with, (4th Time) a New Christmas Harlequinade, by writers of "Punch, or the London Charivari," entitled

## *Punch's Pantomime!*

OR, HARLEQUIN

# KING JOHN

AND

# *Magna Charta!*

The Overture and the whole of the Music hetero and *in*-geniously selected and composed by Mr R. HUGHES. The Scenery by the Messrs. GRIEVE. The Mechanical Changes, by Mr BRADWELL. The Drosses, by Miss GLOVER, The Machinery by Mr SLOMAN. The Pantomime produced (with all the gorgeousness of the EAST) under the direction of Mr WEST.

*Programme of the Pantomime:—*

RUINS OF THE FORUM IN THE CAMPO VACCINO.

*(The well-known Classical Cowmeadow at Rome.)*

Oberon, Miss KENDALL, Titania, Mrs EMDEN.
Puck, Miss JAMES, Punch, Miss TAYLOR.

*VAULT of the BLACK DIAMOND, in the Castle of Fitzwalter.*

Baron Fitzwalter, Mr S.SMITH. Lord Chancellor, Mr Braithwaite.
King John, Mr W.H.PAYNE, Avisa, Mr GARDEN,
Isabella.....Mr MOORE, The Conducter.....Mr RUSSELL,

*Court Yard in Windsor Castle, with an Ancient Reservoir.*

*(Vulgo—a Water-butt.) In this Scene will be exhibited a Royal Wardrobe in the Twelfth Century. Terrific Combat of Two.*

RUNNYMEDE! and ENCAMPMENT OF THE BARONS.

*A Small Van with a Great Charta.*

*Arrival of the Fairy Train. PUNCH IN HIS GLORY.*

*Surrounded by some of his Old, and by many New Friends.—(W.Bradwell.)*

Motley Metamorphoses.

Harlequin..Mr J. RIDGWAY, Columbine..Mrs J. RIDGWAY,
Pantaloon..Mr GARDEN, Clown..Mr T. RIDGWAY,

*Olde Schoole House. Exterior of Polytechnic. Bartholomew Fair,* 1841. *A Dance between Europe and Africa. Bartholomew Fair,* 1843. *Real way to play Scotch Quadrilles. Exeter Hall and Tobacconist's Shop. Singing for the Million! Mendicity Society's Offices, Fashionable Insurance Office, and Barber's Shop. Grand Tableau of Aldgate Pump! The Chinese Exhibition, (Knightsbridge,) Punch's Water Frolic, with the Lake of Como at a respectful distance.*

To-morrow, Fra-Diavolo, My Neighbour's Wife, and the Pantomime.

# Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Play of

# As You Like It.

Duke, (living in exile) Mr RYDER,
First Lord, Mr ELTON,
Amiens, Mr ALLEN, Jaques, Mr MACREADY,
Duke Frederick, Mr G. BENNETT,
La Beau, Mr HUDSON, Oliver, Mr GRAHAM,
Jaques, Mr LYNNE, Orlando, Mr ANDERSON,
Adam, (Servant to Oliver,) Mr PHELPS,
Touchstone ..... (a Clown) ..... Mr KEELEY,
William, (in love with Audrey) Mr COMPTON,
Pages.....Miss P. HORTON, and Miss GOULD,
Rosalind, Miss NISBETT,
Cecilia, (Daughter to Duke Frederick) Mrs STIRLING,
Audrey (a Country Wench) Mrs KEELEY,

After which (4th time,) a new Grand Tragic-Comic Christmas Pantomime, called

HARLEQUIN AND

# WILLIAM TELL;

OR THE

## *Genius of the Ribstone Pippin*

Scenery, by Mr. Danson, and Assistants. Overture and Music by a substitute for Rossini. Dresses, Machinery, &c. by Real Swiss Artists.

*The Pantomime produced under the superintendence of Mr H. Younge*

Scene 1st, Regions of Slavery in the Caverns of Despair.—Patent Fetter Factory
Demon of Despair, Mr Yarnold, Genius of Liberty, Mrs Watson,
Britannia, Miss Newcombe,

2nd—Valley and Lake, with Tell's Cottage and snowy peaks of the Alps,
Emma, Mr BENDER, Albert, Mr HANCE, Sarnem, Mr HOWELL,
William Tell, Mr C. J, SMITH, Melchtal, Mr STILT,

3rd—Antechamber in the Castle of Altorf.
Gesler, Mr GOURIET,

4th— Mountain Pass with Storm. 5th—Market Place in Altorf.
The appearance of the Genius in the Fairy Ribstone Pippin Bower.

*Transformation of the Characters:*

Harlequin, Mr C. J. SMITH. Columbine, Miss FAIRBROTHER,
Clown, Mr T. MATTHEWS, Pantaloon, Mr HOWELL,
Twirlabout, Mr STILT,

*Office of Bell's Life. Emporium of Fashion, & Seven Bell's Inn.*
Works of Art and Works of Nature, Bells of all kinds. The BELL Assembly.
Infant Infirmary—Register Office, and Yard of the Blue Boar Inn.
Cold water cures—a Christmas Pudding—Parcels of Children.—
" Take Care of the Door."

*Arrival of a Curiosity from the ISLE OF MAN, who bears the ARMS and also the LEGS of that place—in this scene will be introduced*

The Gem of the Ballet, " La Jolie Fille de Gand."

*Pussymeat's Pye House. Shut up Shop. Sausage and Makers.*
*Outside of the New Tee-total Temperance Music-Hall.*
Ancient Kitchen and Bed Room in the Blossoms Inn,
*Scene 6th—Gardens of the Hesperides, in which the reconciled Parties are treated with a view of the TELLENSPRUNG.*

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